5

## **ABSTRACT**

A disposable, hand-held oral hygiene device comprising an elongated member and one or more swabs attached to one or both longitudinal ends of the elongated member. The swab can comprise a material suitable for cleaning the teeth and mouth. In particular embodiments, this material is a nonwoven fabric having projections. The elongated member can be sufficiently compressible to prevent harm to the care receiver in the event the care receiver bites down while receiving care. For example, the elongated member can have a compressive energy of from about 2 to about 20 inch-pounds (from about 0.226 to about 2.26 Joules). The present invention further describes various methods of making a disposable oral hygiene device.